



February 4

Ecclesiasticus

35:20^{1611 KJV}

“Mercy”

**Mercy is
seasonable
in the
time
of affliction,
as clouds
of rain
in the time
of drought.**

O how fair a thing is mercy in the time of anguish and trouble.
It is like a cloud of rain that cometh in the time of a drought.

Coverdale, 1535

O how fayre a thinge is mercy, in the tyme of anguysh & trouble. It is like a cloude of rayne, & cometh in & tyme of a drouth.

Great Bible, 1540

O how fayre a thing is mercy in the tyme of anguysh and trouble. It is lyke a cloude of rayne that cometh in the tyme of a drouth.

I'm not saying there's a major discrepancy here.

The 2 sentences in the older versions just seem to say it more plainly than the 1611's shortened, single sentence which uses “**seasonable**” rather than “**fair**”, and “**affliction**” rather than “**anguish and trouble**”.

Either way, what is the thing that is so longed for and so welcomed when things in life are brutally unkind and fierce?

What feels like a soothing
raining down, an outpour,
of blessings after an
incredibly long time
of suffering?

Mercy!